

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PEKING 01769 120453Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00
DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 EUR-12 ACDA-12
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FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1038
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SOPN CH US
SUBJ: PRC MEDIA TREATMENT OF PRESIDENT'S ANNAPOLIS SPEECH

1. PEOPLE'S DAILY JUNE 10 CARRIED BRIEF EXCERPTS OF
THE PRESIDENT'S JUNE 7 ANNAPOLIS ADDRESS. THE EXCERPTS
INCLUDED MANY OF THE PRESIDENT'S CRITICISMS OF THE SOVIET
UNION, INCLUDING ITS DRIVE FOR EXPANSION, ITS USE OF PROXY
FORCES (WITHOUT THE REFERENCE TO KOREA), AND ITS "EXCESSIVE"
MILITARY BUILDUP. CUBA'S MISUSE OF THE NONALIGNED MOVEMENT
WAS ALSO SINGLED OUT.

2. THE PD ARTICLE, ORIGINALLY CARRIED BY NCNA, ALSO HIGHLIGHTED
THE PRESIDENT'S CALL FOR MUTUAL RESTRAINT, HIS
CHARACTERIZATION OF THE US'S "COMPETITIVE" RELATIONSHIP
WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AND HIS PLEDGE TO SUPPORT AFRICAN
EFFORTS TO OPPOSE FOREIGN TROOPS. HIS STATEMENT THAT WE
WOULD CONTINUE TO NEGOTIATE FOR A "FAIR" SALT AGREEMENT
WAS INCLUDED, AS WAS HIS PLEDGE TO MAINTAIN "EQUIVALENT
NUCLEAR STRENGTH," A STRONGER NATO, AND AN "UNDIMINISHED
PRESENCE IN THE PACIFIC."

3. THE EXCERPTS OMITTED ALL STATEMENTS DEALING WITH
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HUMAN RIGHTS, ALL REFERENCES TO THE SOVIETS' GOOD FAITH
AND DESIRE FOR PEACE, AND THE PRESIDENT'S ONLY REFERENCE
TO CHINA -- THAT WE WOULD INCREASE OUR COLLABORATION WITH THE PRC.

4. COMMENT: PEOPLE'S DAILY OCCASIONALLY RUNS EXCERPTS
FROM IMPORTANT SPEECHES BY HIGH ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS.
IT RARELY COMMENTS ON THEM, AND HAS NOT DONE SO THIS

TIME. THE EXCERPTS PRINTED JUNE 10 WILL TELL CHINESE READERS THAT THE SUPERPOWERS ARE STILL CONTENDING EVEN WHILE TRYING TO REACH LIMITED AGREEMENTS, AND THAT PRESIDENT CARTER IS DEEPLY CONCERNED ABOUT SOVIET EXPANSIONISM -- IN SHORT, THE CURRENT PRC LINE.

5. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN LOCAL MEMORY, THE ENTIRE SPEECH WAS CARRIED IN NCNA'S "NEWS FROM FOREIGN AGENCIES AND PRESS," WHICH IS DISTRIBUTED TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS AND BUSINESSMEN HERE. WE CAN ASSUME THAT THE TEXT WAS ALSO PRINTED IN FULL IN THE CHINESE-LANGUAGE LIMITED CIRCULATION "REFERENCE NEWS." WOODCOCK

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